Alberta Finance
Economic Bulletin

ECONOMIC STATISTICS RELEASED DURING THE WEEK OF JULY 2, 2001 TO JULY 6, 2001

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Building Permits ($ millions)	May			Building permits in Alberta increased by 12.3% in May after declining 3.0% in April. Both residential permits (9.4%) and non-residential permits (16.2%) advanced. Permits declined by 6.7% in Edmonton and rose by 15.1% in Calgary. Canadian building permits fell 0.6% in May, led by a 10.6% drop in non-residential permits. For the first five months of this year, Canadian residential (7.8%) and non-residential permits (19.6%) are up from the same time last year.
Alberta	496.5	12.3%	16.2%	
Canada	3,163.3	-0.6%	3.1%	
Help Wanted Index (1996=100)	June			In June, the help-wanted index for Canada fell 1.8% continuing a downward trend that began in November 2000. The index declined in six provinces with the largest declines in British Columbia (-3.1%), Newfoundland (3.0%), and Ontario (2.8%). The largest gains were in PEI (1.3%) and Alberta (1.1%).
Alberta	186	1.1%	12.7%	
Canada	161	-1.8%	-6.4%	
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	May 144.6	0.6%	2.0%	Rising prices for vegetable products (2.1%) and mineral fuels (1.8%) led to a 0.6% increase in the raw materials price index in May. Wood prices (-4.0%) and ferrous materials (-0.4%) experienced declines. Excluding the impact of mineral fuels, the year-over-year increase in the raw materials price index would have been 1.4% instead of 2.0%.
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	May 131.0	0.3%	2.7%	Between May 2000 and May 2001, the industrial product price index grew at 2.7%. Industrial prices increased 0.3% from April, due to higher prices for lumber, sawmill, and wood products (9.1%), petroleum and coal products (3.1%) and intermediate goods (0.5%). These increases were partly offset by lower prices for paper and paper products (-1.5%), chemical and chemical products (-1.1%) and motor vehicles (-0.4%).